



Photos by Senior Airman Kenneth Kennemer



**Left, During the ceremony at the Las Vegas City Hall, honoring fallen officers, including Tech. Sgt. Charles Simons, 99th Security Forces Squadron, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Chief Jerry Keller announces a plan to use the names of the deceased officers as street names in the future. Hundreds of officers from every police department in Nevada came to the dedication ceremony. Scores of officers line the walkways of the City Hall of Las Vegas behind the Chief of Police.**

**Above, Taps is played by a member of the Metropolitan Police Color Guard in front of City Hall at the end of the ceremony. Center, an honor guard composed of members of the various police departments in Nevada perform a 21-gun salute for the fallen officers.**



## Heroes honored during National Police Week

As part of National Police Week, the names of two Air Force security forces officers who died in the line of duty last year, were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C., at a candlelight ceremony Sunday.

The names of Tech. Sgt. Charles W. Simons, 99th Security Forces Squadron, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and Staff Sgt. James R. Day, 72nd Security Forces Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., were two of four military law enforcement officers added to the wall this year along with other law enforcement officers from across the nation who suffered fatal injuries or died while performing their duties.

In separate ceremonies, Sgt. Simons name was also added to the Law Enforcement Officers Memorials in Las Vegas, and Carson City, Nev, Monday.

Sgt. Simons died after being struck by a driver while rerouting traffic during a bomb threat on Nellis in November.

Sgt. Day was killed in the aftermath of a tornado that swept through Tinker. While trying to avoid debris in the road, his all terrain vehicle flipped and he died from his injuries.

Both deaths represent a new trend in officer fatalities - traffic-related incidents. For the first time in history, the number of law enforcement officers killed in automobile accidents last year was higher than the number of officers killed by firearms, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

Each year as part of National Police Week, names of officers who died in the line of duty are inscribed

on the wall of remembrance at the memorial. At the end of a memorial ceremony a candle is lit in honor of all fallen officers. The flame is then passed throughout the crowd as the names of those being honored are read aloud.

Officers from the smallest towns to the largest federal agencies are represented on the memorial wall, which was dedicated in 1991. Among the additions this year were 146 officers who died prior to 1999 but were only recently discovered by memorial researchers.

To view or leave an online personal tribute to the officers including Sgt. Day and Sgt. Simon, visit the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Web site at [www.nlemf.com](http://www.nlemf.com).

**Editors note: Compiled from Air Force News Service reports.**



**Above, Staff Sgt. Shawn Hennesse, 99th Security Forces Squadron carries the Air Force flag during the ceremony. Below Tech. Sgt. Charles Simons fiance, Ms. Claudia Duarte, cries during the ceremony.**

